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Clean Version of Pending Claims

DNA ENCODING A DNA REPAIR PROTEIN

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- (Twice amended) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule encoding a vertebrate DNA repair polypeptide having SEQ ID NO:2, or a biologically active fragment thereof, wherein the polypeptide has a molecular weight of about 95000 Da as determined by SDS-PAGE. 2. (Amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 which has SEQ ID NO:1. (Amended) An isolated and purified DNA molecule consisting of SEO ID NO:1, or a 4. DNA molecule complementary thereto. 20. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a promoter operably linked to a nucleic acid segment encoding SEQ ID NO:2. 21. (Amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 20 wherein the nucleic acid segment has SEQ ID NO:1. 22. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a promoter operably linked to a nucleic acid segment which encodes a fusion polypertide comprising at least a portion of a DNA repair polypeptide which binds an antibody specific for SEO ID NO:2.
 - 23. (New) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule encoding a vertebrate DNA repair polypeptide, or a biologically active fragment thereof, wherein the polypeptide has a molecular weight of about 95000 Da as determined by SDS-PAGE, wherein the nucleic acid molecule has SEQ ID NO:1.

- 24. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, 4, 20, 22 or 23 which is labeled.
- 25. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 22 wherein the portion of the DNA repair polypeptide includes residues 399 to 751 of SEQID NO:2.
- 26. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 22 wherein the fusion polypeptide is a fusion of glutathione S-transferase and at least a portion of the DNA repair polypeptide.
- 27. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 22 wherein the fusion polypeptide is a fusion of a histidine tag and at least a portion of the DNA repair polypeptide.
- 28. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein the fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 is immunogenic, binds DNA, forms a complex with hMre11/hRad50, or has nuclease activity when associated with hMre11/hRad50.

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